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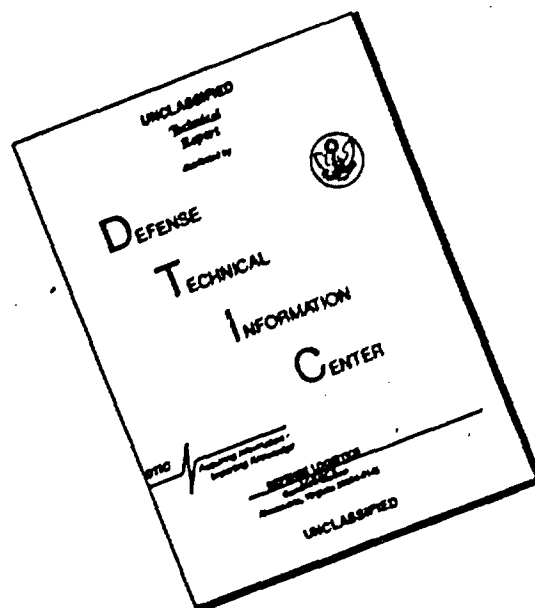
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## AN EXPERIMENTAL INVESTIGATION *of* NOISE *in* TUNNEL DIODES

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NOTICE

AN EXPERIMENTAL INVESTIGATION  
OF NOISE IN TUNNEL DIODES

by

Carl N. Berglund

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## ABSTRACT

Noise measurements were made on one silicon and three germanium commercially available tunnel diodes over a bias range from zero voltage to a voltage slightly beyond the valley point, and at three temperatures -- 203 K, 290 K, and 373 K. The study was divided into two parts, one concerned with frequency-dependent noise and the other with frequency-independent noise.

Frequency-dependent noise was measured in the range 1 kc to 500 kc, and was found to increase with increasing bias voltage for each sample. The observed noise at each bias point varied nearly inversely as the frequency to some power  $x$ , where  $x$  ranged from 0.46 to 1.2. This component of noise appears to be caused by two or more separate components of the "excess current" present, as well as the normal diode component of current. For some tunnel diodes at the higher bias voltages, frequency-dependent noise may be greater than the normal shot noise at frequencies as high as 50 Mc.

Frequency-independent noise was measured at 30 Mc at room temperature. It was found that the equivalent shot-noise current of a tunnel diode at voltages above the peak-point voltage is given very closely by the observed direct current. From zero voltage to the peak-point voltage, the equivalent shot-noise current of a tunnel diode is approximated by the sum of the magnitudes of the Esaki and Zener currents.



## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY OF RESULTS

#### A. OBJECT OF THE STUDY

In order to determine whether the tunnel diode will be useful in low-noise preamplifiers, frequency converters and mixers, more complete information than is available in the literature is required on the noise sources present in the device.

The object of the present work is to measure the intensity of the equivalent shunt noise-current generator for a number of commercially available tunnel diodes over a wide range of bias, frequency, and temperature, and to interpret the results in terms of noise sources present in the diodes.

#### B. MEASURED NOISE IN SOME TUNNEL DIODES

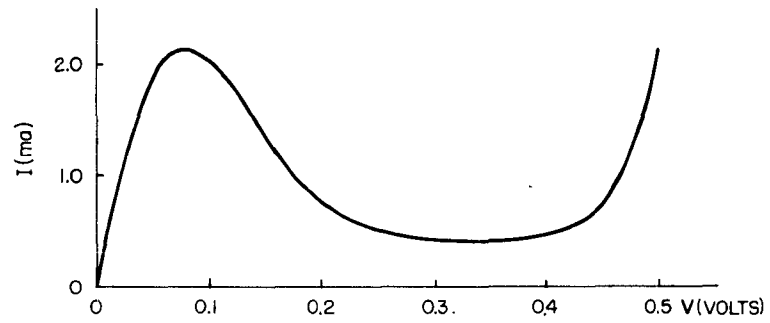
Measurements were made on four tunnel diodes: one Hoffman silicon tunnel diode, Type 1N2929, of 1-ma peak current, and three General Electric germanium tunnel diodes, Types 1N2939, 1N2969, and 1N2941, of 1-, 2.2-, and 4.7-ma peak currents, respectively. These four were chosen in an effort to obtain a reasonable sample of commercially available tunnel diodes.

The measurements were made at three temperatures, 203 K, 290 K, and 373 K, and covered a frequency range from 1 kc to 500 kc. Noise was also measured at 30 Mc at room temperature. The bias range of interest extended from zero voltage to voltages slightly beyond the valley voltage.

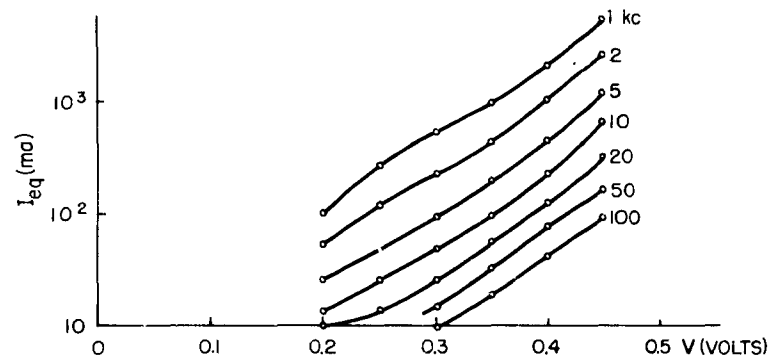
The more important results of the study are as follows.

##### 1. Frequency-Dependent Noise

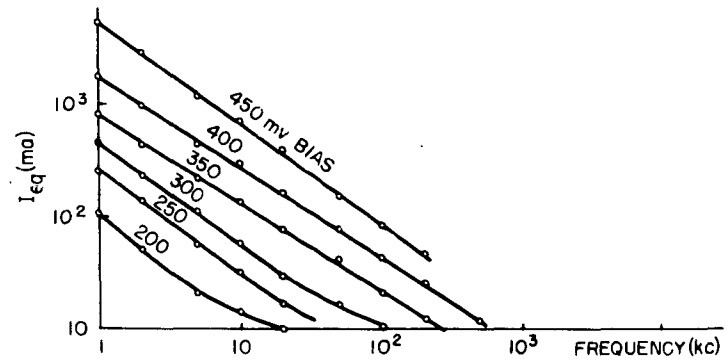
At low frequencies, considerable  $1/f$  noise was found to be present in all four diodes. Figure 1a shows the d-c characteristic and Figs. 1b and 1c illustrate the magnitude of the noise measured in the 2.2-ma



(a) D-C CHARACTERISTIC



(b) NOISE VERSUS BIAS VOLTAGE



(c) NOISE VERSUS FREQUENCY

Fig. 1 Characteristics at 290 K of 2.2-ma Ge Tunnel Diode Type 1N2969 (No. 1)

germanium sample at room temperature, 290 K. The equivalent shot-noise current  $I_{eq}$  represents the direct current in an emission-saturated diode generating a shot noise current equal to the observed noise current, where  $I_{eq}$  is defined by the equation

$$\overline{i_d^2} = 2 q I_{eq} \Delta f \quad (1)$$

In eq. 1,  $\overline{i_d^2}$  is the mean-square noise-current generator in shunt with the tunnel diode at the frequency, temperature, and bias of the measurement,  $q$  is the electronic charge, and  $\Delta f$  is the bandwidth of the noise measured.

From Fig. 1b it can be seen that low-frequency noise in tunnel diodes increases rapidly with increasing bias voltages, and Fig. 1c indicates that the noise varies roughly in proportion to  $1/f$ . At the higher bias voltages, the noise may be so large that a frequency dependent component may be present that is greater than the normal shot-noise component to frequencies as high as 50 Mc.

Figure 2 shows 1-kc noise in all four diodes, and also in a second sample of the 2.2-ma diode Type 1N2969, as a function of forward current, and suggests that no general statements can be made about the magnitude of low-frequency noise to be expected from a diode of given peak-current rating. In addition, the noise does not vary directly as the square of the forward current, indicating that more than one source is responsible for the observed noise.

The approximate  $1/f$  frequency variation indicated in Fig. 1c is not characteristic of all the diodes. However, at a particular bias voltage, the low-frequency noise in all samples was found to vary nearly inversely as the frequency to some power  $x$ . The value of  $x$  varies over a considerable range with bias voltage and temperature. Values as low as 0.46 and as high as 1.2 were noted.

In the work of Yajima and Esaki,<sup>1</sup> it was suggested that two low-frequency noise-current generators were present in the tunnel diode, one proportional to the square of the normal diode current component, and one

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<sup>1</sup> Superscripts refer to numbered items in the Bibliography.

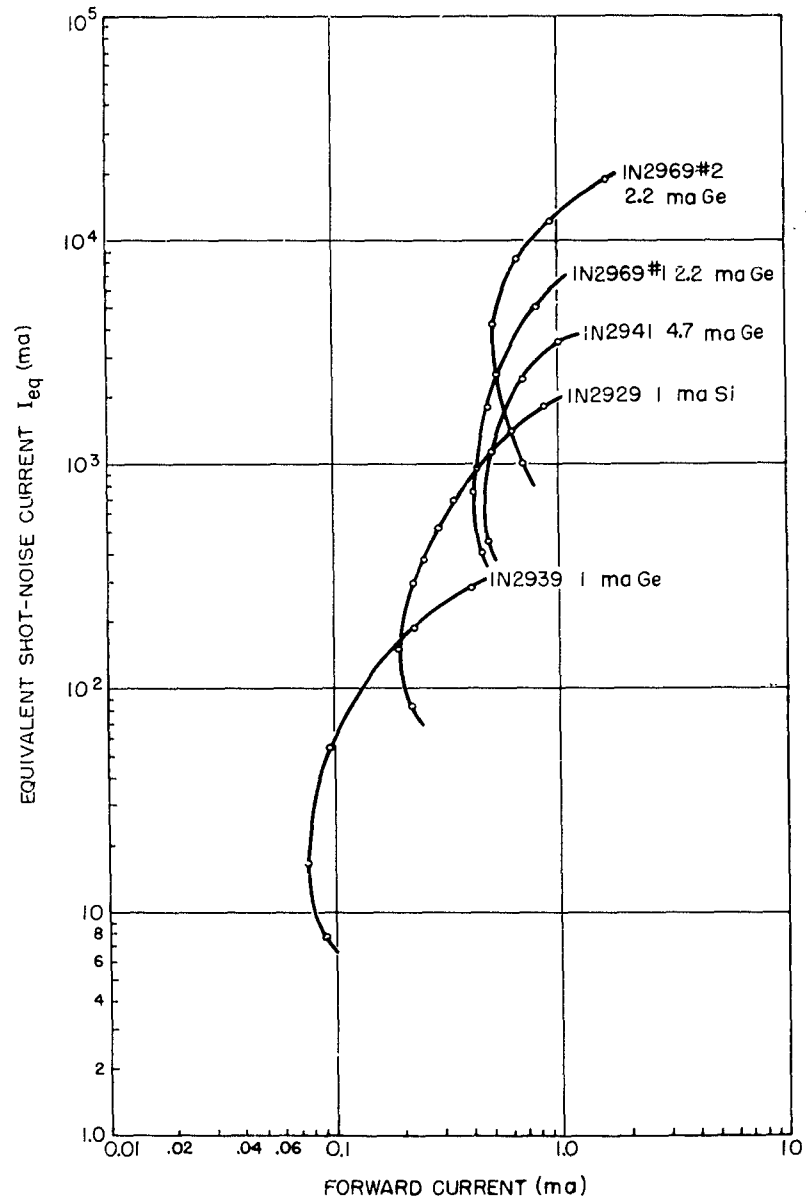


Fig. 2 1-kc Noise vs. Forward Current in  
Five Tunnel-Diode Samples at 290 K



proportional to the square of the "excess" current component. The results of the present study suggest that this statement may be an oversimplification. The variation of the factor  $x$  as described above, and the variation of the  $1/f$  noise with bias in the excess-current region indicate that two or more separate components of the excess current, as well as the diode current component, contribute to the observed noise. This observation in turn suggests that the excess current itself may be caused by more than one physical phenomenon

## 2. Frequency-Independent Noise

At high frequencies, the  $1/f$  noise becomes negligible and the predominant noise-current source in tunnel diodes is the shot effect. Measurements by Tiemann<sup>2</sup> have shown that at high frequencies and in the negative-resistance region tunnel diodes produce full shot noise; that is,  $I_{eq}$  is equal to the direct current at the bias point. It is supposed that this result can be extended to other bias regions if the negative Zener current  $I_Z$  is separated from the positive Esaki, excess, and diode current components,  $I_E$ ,  $I_{ex}$ , and  $I_d$  respectively. Thus, if

$$I_{dc} = I_E + I_{ex} + I_d - I_Z \quad (2)$$

is the diode direct current, it is supposed that

$$I_{eq} = I_E + I_{ex} + I_d + I_Z \quad (3)$$

Measurements made at 30 Mc and 290 K indicate that, for all four tunnel-diode samples, Eq. 3 is an excellent approximation. An example

of the agreement obtained is shown by data for the 1-ma germanium diode, Type 1N2939, plotted in Fig. 3. The small circles represent experimental values of  $I_{eq}$  and the solid line is a plot of Eq. 3 obtained from the direct current values and values of  $I_Z$  calculated by a method given by Pucel.<sup>3\*</sup> The dashed line representing  $I_{dc}$  is added for comparison.

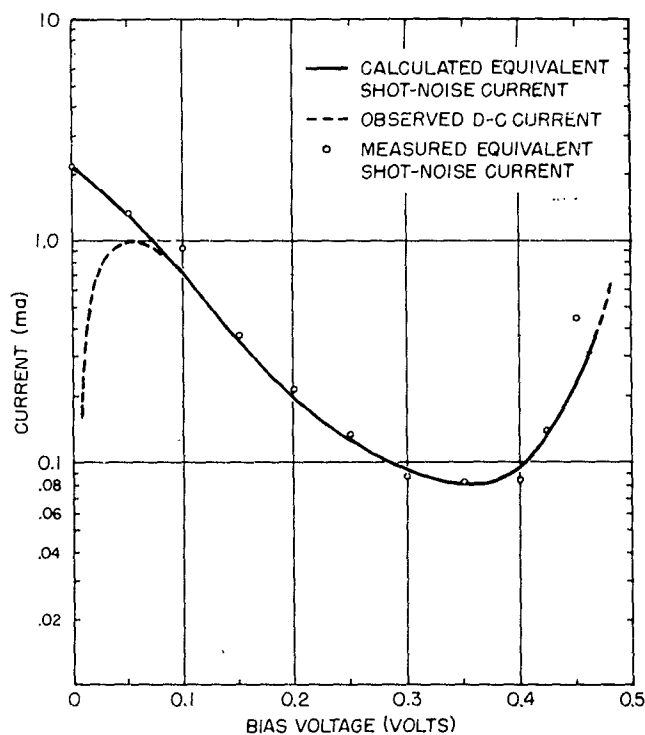


Fig. 3 Comparison of Calculated and Measured Equivalent Shot-Noise Current at 30 Mc and 290 K for 1-ma Ge Tunnel Diode Type 1N2939

\*

A description of the method is given in Chapter III.

## CHAPTER II

### MEASUREMENT PROCEDURE

#### A. LOW-FREQUENCY NOISE MEASUREMENTS

The equivalent noise-current generator in shunt with a tunnel diode can be determined indirectly by connecting the diode as a low-gain amplifier and measuring its noise figure. The circuit diagram for noise measurements between 1 kc and 500 kc is shown in Fig. 4.

The experimental procedure is as follows: With the tunnel diode connected as shown, and the conductance  $G$  set at some convenient value  $G_1$  which prevents the circuit from oscillating, note the voltage  $V_1$  indicated on the true-rms voltmeter. Connect the signal generator to the circuit,

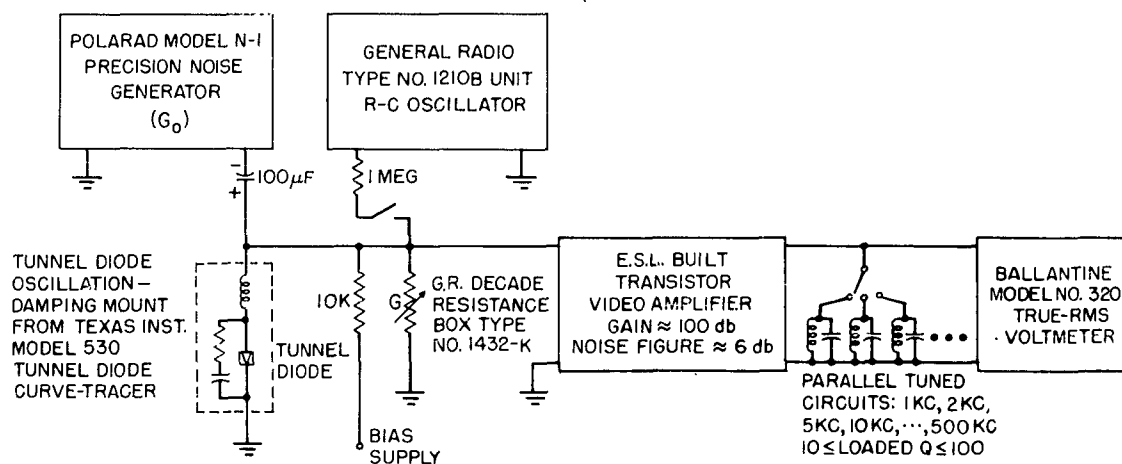


Fig. 4 Circuit for Low-Frequency Noise Measurements

and set its output to some convenient value well above the noise. Remove the tunnel diode and adjust the conductance  $G$  to some value  $G_2$  for which the voltmeter reading is the same as it was before. This procedure assures that the impedance seen by the amplifier at its input is the same as it was for the first measurement. With the signal generator disconnected, note the voltage  $V_2$  of the voltmeter and measure the noise figure,  $F_2$ , of the

circuit. The internal conductance of the noise generator is  $G_0$  for both measurements.

From the two measurements, the equivalent noise generator  $\overline{i_d^2}$  in parallel with the tunnel diode in a narrow bandwidth  $\Delta f$  at the frequency, temperature, and bias of the measurement can be calculated. Figures 5 and 6 are the equivalent circuits of the amplifier input for the first and second measurements respectively. In the figures,  $G_d$  is the small-signal conductance

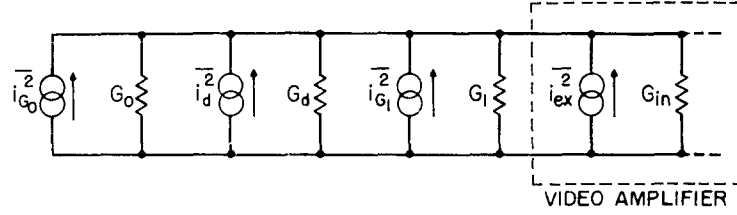


Fig. 5 Noise Equivalent Circuit at Input of Video Amplifier with Tunnel Diode Connected

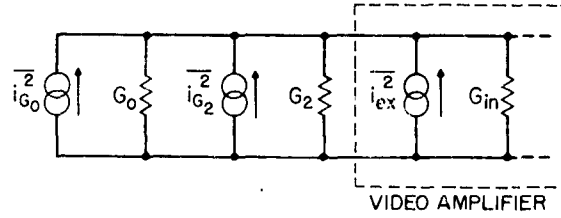


Fig. 6 Noise Equivalent Circuit at Input of Video Amplifier with Tunnel Diode Removed

of the tunnel diode at the bias voltage of the measurement,  $G_{in}$  is the input conductance of the amplifier, and  $\overline{i_{G_0}^2}$ ,  $\overline{i_{G_1}^2}$ , and  $\overline{i_{G_2}^2}$  are the mean-square thermal-noise currents associated with the conductances  $G_0$ ,  $G_1$ , and  $G_2$  respectively. Thus

$$\overline{i_{G_0}^2} = 4 kT \Delta f G_0 \quad (4)$$

$$\overline{i_{G_1}^2} = 4 kT \Delta f G_1 \quad (5)$$

$$\overline{i_{G_2}^2} = 4 kT \Delta f G_2 \quad (6)$$

where  $k$  is Boltzmann's constant, and  $T$  is the absolute temperature of the conductances (290 K for all measurements). The amplifier noise is represented by an equivalent noise-current generator at its input terminals of mean-square value  $\overline{i_{ex}^2}$ .

For the first measurement,

$$V_1^2 = (\overline{i_d^2} + \overline{i_{G_0}^2} + \overline{i_{G_1}^2} + \overline{i_{ex}^2}) C_1 \quad (7)$$

where  $C_1$  is some constant dependent on the amplifier gain and the total admittance at the amplifier's input. For the second measurement

$$V_2^2 = (\overline{i_{G_2}^2} + \overline{i_{G_0}^2} + \overline{i_{ex}^2}) C_1 \quad (8)$$

$$F_2 = \frac{\overline{i_{G_2}^2} + \overline{i_{G_0}^2} + \overline{i_{ex}^2}}{\overline{i_{G_0}^2}} \quad (9)$$

and the values of  $C_1$  and  $\overline{i_{ex}^2}$  are unaltered because the method of setting  $G_2$  assures that the total input admittance is not changed. From Eqs. 7 and 8,

$$\overline{i_d^2} + \overline{i_{G_0}^2} + \overline{i_{G_1}^2} + \overline{i_{ex}^2} = \left( \frac{V_1}{V_2} \right)^2 (\overline{i_{G_2}^2} + \overline{i_{G_0}^2} + \overline{i_{ex}^2}) \quad (10)$$

Substituting Eqs. 4, 5, 6, and 9 into Eq. 10 yields

$$\overline{i_d^2} = 4 kT \Delta f G_0 \left\{ \left[ \left( \frac{V_1}{V_2} \right)^2 - 1 \right] F_2 + \frac{G_2}{G_0} - \frac{G_1}{G_0} \right\} \quad (11)$$

If  $I_{eq}$  is defined as the equivalent shot-noise current of the tunnel diode given by

$$\overline{i_d^2} = 2 q I_{eq} \Delta f \quad (12)$$

Equation 11 becomes

$$I_{eq} = \frac{2 kT G_0}{q} \left\{ \left[ \left( \frac{V_1}{V_2} \right)^2 - 1 \right] F_2 + \frac{G_2}{G_0} - \frac{G_1}{G_0} \right\}$$

$$\approx 50 G_0 \left\{ \left[ \left( \frac{V_1}{V_2} \right)^2 - 1 \right] F_2 + \frac{G_2}{G_0} - \frac{G_1}{G_0} \right\} \text{ ma} \quad (13)$$

Equation 13 holds regardless of the tunnel-diode temperature.

Measurements were made at dry-ice temperature, 203 K, room temperature, 290 K, and 373 K. To maintain the diodes at dry-ice temperature, the samples and their mount were placed with some dry ice in a flask of alcohol. A temperature-controlled oven was used for noise measurements of the samples at 373 K.

The oscillation-damping mount used for the tunnel diodes was taken from a Texas Instruments Model 530 Tunnel Diode Curve Tracer. It consists of a series resistance and capacitance placed directly across the tunnel diode terminals. The value of the capacitance is such that even at the highest frequency of measurement, 500 kc, its impedance is high enough to make the effect of the mount on the noise measurements negligible.

## B. HIGH-FREQUENCY NOISE MEASUREMENTS

The equivalent noise-current generator in shunt with the tunnel diodes was measured at 30 Mc by a similar method to that used at low frequencies. The circuit diagram is shown in Fig. 7.

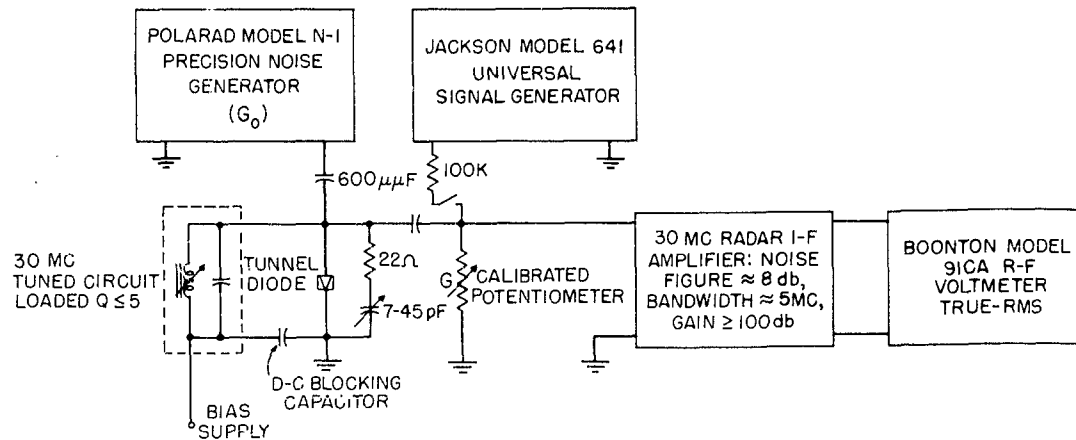


Fig. 7 Circuit for 30-Mc Noise Measurements

The procedure of measurement at 30 Mc is the same as that at low frequencies, except that the tuned circuit must be retuned before each measurement to correct for the effect of tunnel-diode capacitance. The equivalent shot-noise current is again given by Eq. 13.

Measurements were made only at room temperature because oscillation of the tunnel-diode circuit was caused by the long connecting cable required between the noise-measuring equipment and the temperature-controlling equipment. The oscillation-damping network shown in Fig. 7 consists of a series resistance of 22 ohms and a variable capacitor of 7 to 45 mmf placed directly across the diode terminals. The method of calculating the values required was that of Davidsohn et al.<sup>4</sup> The value of capacitance must be such that the noise contribution to the circuit of the 22-ohm resistor is negligible with respect to that of the diode at 30 Mc. For this reason, a much smaller value of capacitance than that used for the low-frequency measurements was required. This resulted in insufficient damping when long connecting cables were used, and the diodes oscillated.

### C. DISCUSSION OF ERRORS

The method of noise measurement employed has the advantage of tending to reduce the effect of inaccuracies in some of the measuring equipment. Consider Eq. 13 rewritten in a slightly different manner.

$$I_{eq} = 50 \left[ \left( \frac{V_1}{V_2} \right)^2 - 1 \right] F_2 G_0 + 50 G_2 - 50 G_1 \text{ ma.} \quad (14)$$

The accuracy of  $I_{eq}$  is to a large part determined by the accuracy of the factor  $(V_1/V_2)^2 - 1$ . The ratio  $V_1/V_2$  may be more accurate than either  $V_1$  or  $V_2$  taken alone if some of the error in  $V_1$  appears proportionally in  $V_2$ . For best accuracy, the ratio  $V_1/V_2$  must be much greater than unity. But  $V_1/V_2$  can be large only if the product  $G_0 F_2$  is small. Thus, an amplifier with as low a noise figure as possible and a value of  $G_0$  as small as possible (consistent with low over-all noise figure) should be used.

The value of  $I_{eq}$  can also be determined by measuring the over-all system noise figure  $F_1$  instead of  $V_1$  in the first step of the measurement. The equivalent noise current  $I_{eq}$  is then given by

$$I_{eq} = 50 G_0 \left[ F_1 - F_2 + \frac{G_2}{G_0} - \frac{G_1}{G_0} \right] \text{ ma} \quad (15)$$

However, the many more operations associated with measuring  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  rather than  $V_1$ ,  $V_2$ , and  $F_2$  makes this method more time consuming. Also, the upper limit on  $F_1$  of 20 db set by the noise generator restricts the range of  $I_{eq}$ , and the fact that the true-rms voltmeter is more accurately calibrated than the noise generator makes the error of the measurement associated with Eq. 14 smaller than that of the measurement associated with Eq. 15.

Any small stray reactance present in the circuit, if it is the same for the measurement of  $V_1$  as for that of  $V_2$ , will appear chiefly in the value of  $C_1$  in Eqs. 7 and 8. Thus, its effect on the accuracy of  $I_{eq}$  is minimized.



# CHAPTER III

## DISCUSSION OF RESULTS

### A. TUNNEL-DIODE CURRENT MECHANISMS

Figure 8 shows a typical current-voltage characteristic of a tunnel diode. A knowledge of the carrier-transport phenomena that combine to form the observed characteristic is required if the experimental noise data are to be interpreted in terms of noise sources within the device.

In the large-forward-voltage range, the observed curve is due to electron and hole diffusion in the forward direction, and drift currents in the reverse direction. This component of current,  $I_d$ , can be determined by accurately measuring current and voltage in the tunnel diode at high forward voltage, and applying the usual diode current-voltage relation<sup>1</sup>

$$I_d = I_s \left[ e^{qV/kT} - 1 \right] \quad (16)$$

where  $q$  is the electronic charge,  $k$  is Boltzmann's constant,  $T$  is the absolute temperature,  $I_s$  is a constant, and  $V$  is the barrier voltage. The voltage drop in the diode spreading resistance must be subtracted from the measured voltage to obtain  $V$ .

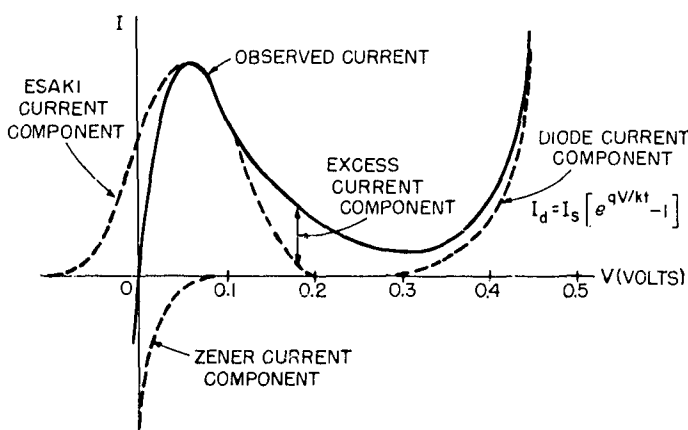


Fig. 8 Typical Tunnel-Diode V-I Characteristics

Large current in the reverse direction and a current peak in the forward direction can be attributed<sup>1</sup> to the forward-directed Esaki current  $I_E$  and the reverse-directed Zener current  $I_Z$ . The magnitudes of these two currents have not been accurately predicted by present theory. However, between zero voltage and the voltage at the peak current, the two components can be calculated from the observed d-c characteristic quite closely by using a method suggested by Pucel.<sup>3</sup> If  $I$  is the observed current, then the Esaki and Zener current components at some voltage  $V$  are given by

$$I_E = \frac{I}{1 - e^{-qV/kT}} \quad (17)$$

$$I_Z = \frac{I}{e^{qV/kT} - 1} \quad (18)$$

This method is not applicable at bias voltages above approximately the peak-point voltage because the current then contains components in addition to  $I_E$  and  $I_Z$ .

If a parabolic band structure is assumed for the tunnel diode,  $I_E$  and  $I_Z$  can be predicted, but a d-c characteristic obtained using these values does not agree with observed values of total current. The difference between the observed current and the algebraic sum of the calculated Esaki, Zener and diode current components has been called the excess current,  $I_{ex}$ , and is generally believed to be due to carrier tunneling to intermediate states followed by recombination. This excess-current component, along with the diode component, are thought to be almost entirely responsible for  $1/f$  noise in the device.<sup>1</sup>

## B. $1/f$ NOISE IN TUNNEL DIODES

In 1958, as a method of learning more about the excess-current region of the tunnel-diode current-voltage characteristic, an experimental study of excess noise in the device was made by Yajima and Esaki.<sup>1</sup> It was found

that a  $1/f$  noise spectrum existed which appeared to be proportional to the excess current.

Figures 9 through 18 show the noise observed in the tunnel diode samples at low frequencies. Figures 9 through 16 are plots of observed noise versus frequency and observed noise versus bias voltage for each of the Type 1N2929, 1N2939, 1N9241, and 1N2969 samples at temperatures of 203 K, 290 K, and 373 K. Figure 17 shows the variation of observed noise with frequency and bias voltage for a second sample of the Type 1N2969 2.2-ma tunnel diode at room temperature. Figure 18 shows the variation of observed 1-kc noise with forward current for each of the four samples at the three temperatures 203 K, 290 K, and 373 K. The d-c characteristics for the four samples at the three temperatures are given by Figs. 19, 20, 21, and 22.

Yajima<sup>1</sup> assumed that there are two  $1/f$  noise-current generators present in tunnel diodes, one proportional to the square of the diode-current component and one proportional to the square of the excess-current component. On this assumption, the following approximate equation can be written

$$I_{eq} = \frac{K_1 I_d^2}{f} + \frac{K_2 I_{ex}^2}{f} \quad (19)$$

where  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  are constants, and  $f$  is the frequency of the noise.

An attempt to fit Eq. 19 to the measured data yields widely different values of  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  for the different diodes. In fact, variation of  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  is needed even from region to region of a single diode. However, it can be said in general that  $K_2$  is much greater than  $K_1$ . The magnitude of the excess noise at any particular bias point was found to be nearly inversely proportional to its frequency to some power  $x$ . The value of  $x$  varied from 0.46 to 1.2, and was in general large at the higher bias voltages.

These observations seem to suggest that Eq. 19 is not correct. Instead, it seems reasonable to suppose that the excess current is made up of a number of components which produce excess noise inversely proportional to different powers of frequency and at different intensities. Since the

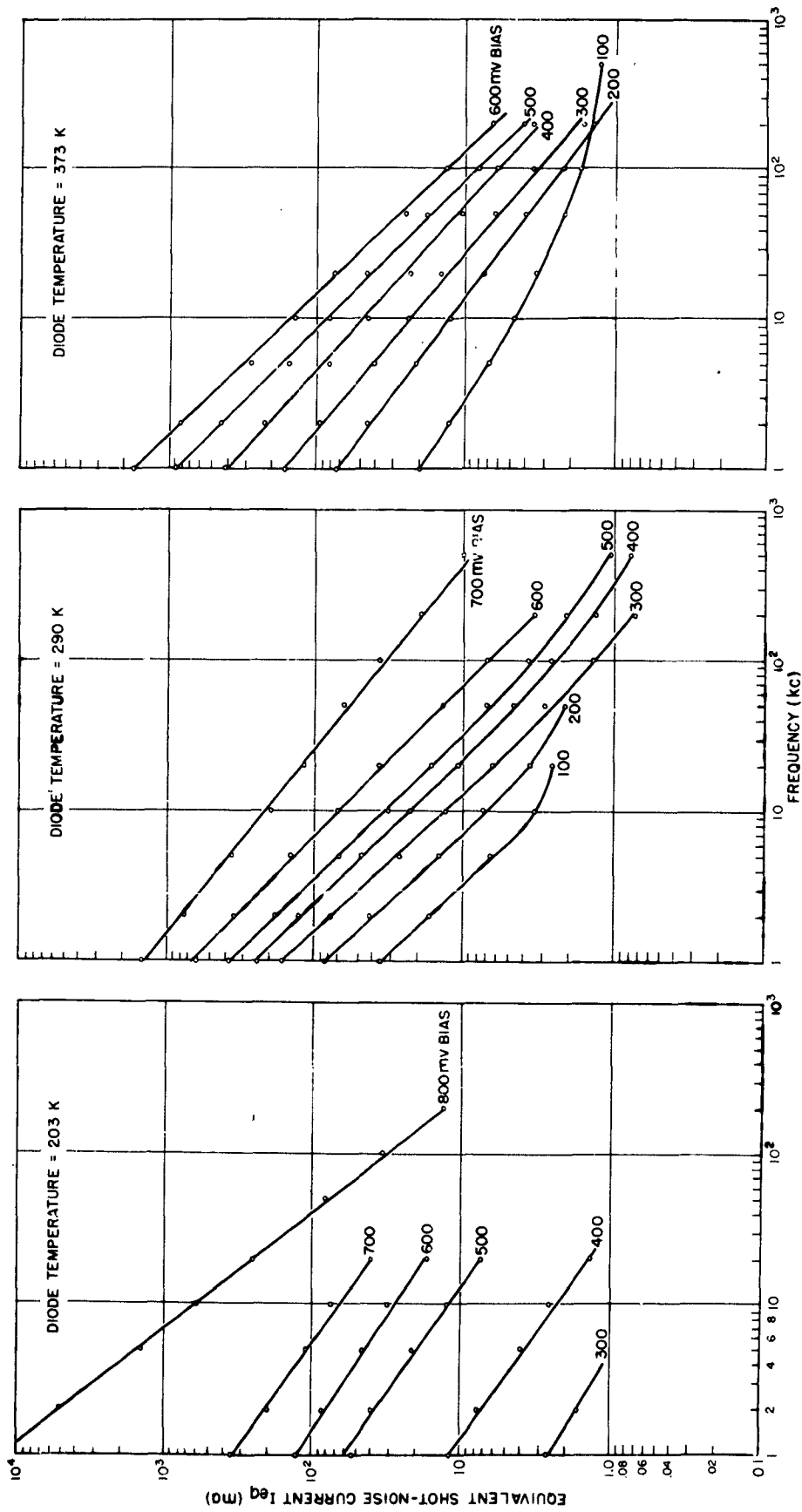


Fig. 9 Low-Frequency Noise vs. Frequency for 1-ma Si Tunnel Diode Type 1N2929

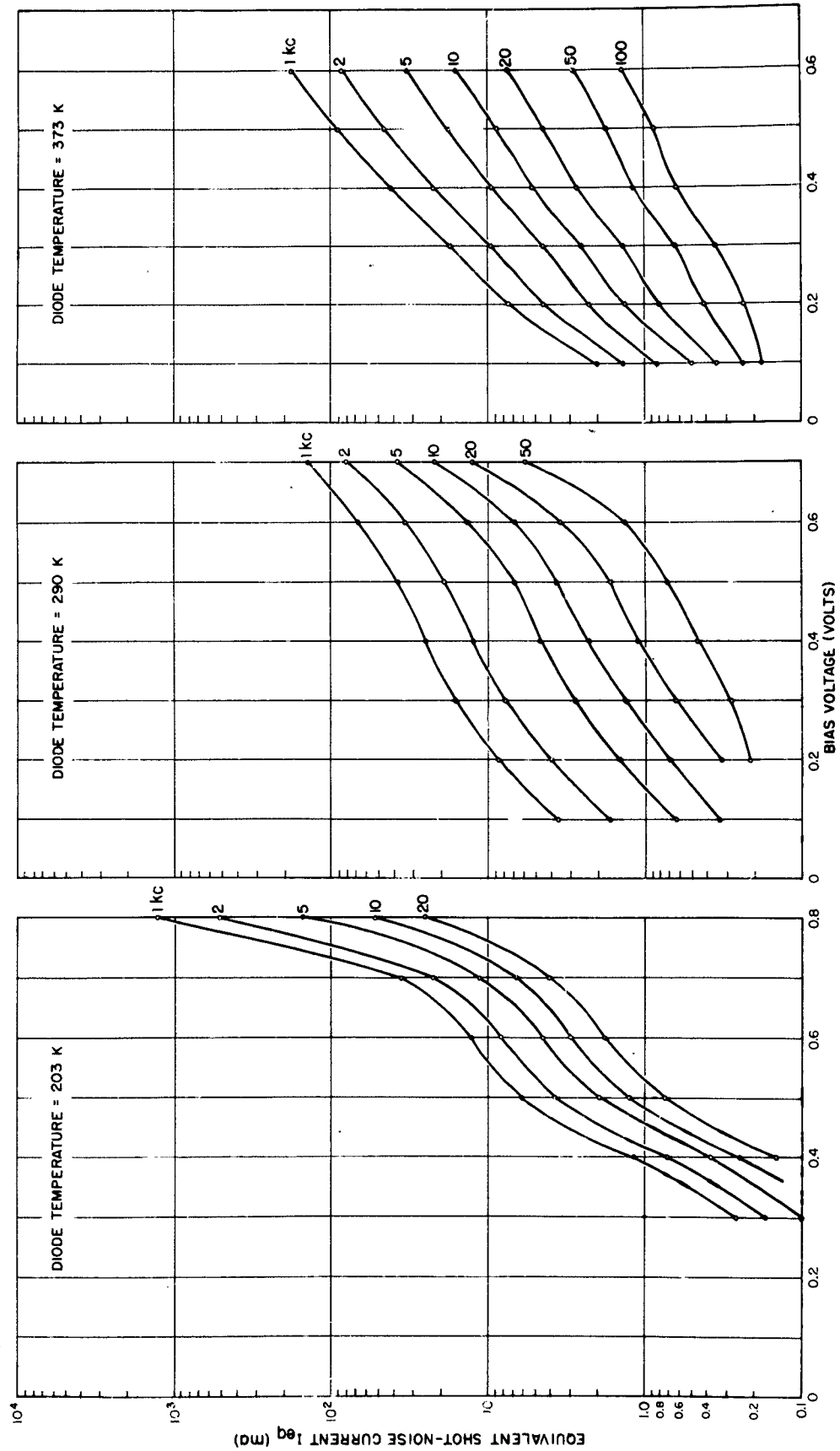


Fig. 10 Low-Frequency Noise vs. Bias Voltage for 1-mA Si Tunnel Diode Type 1N2929

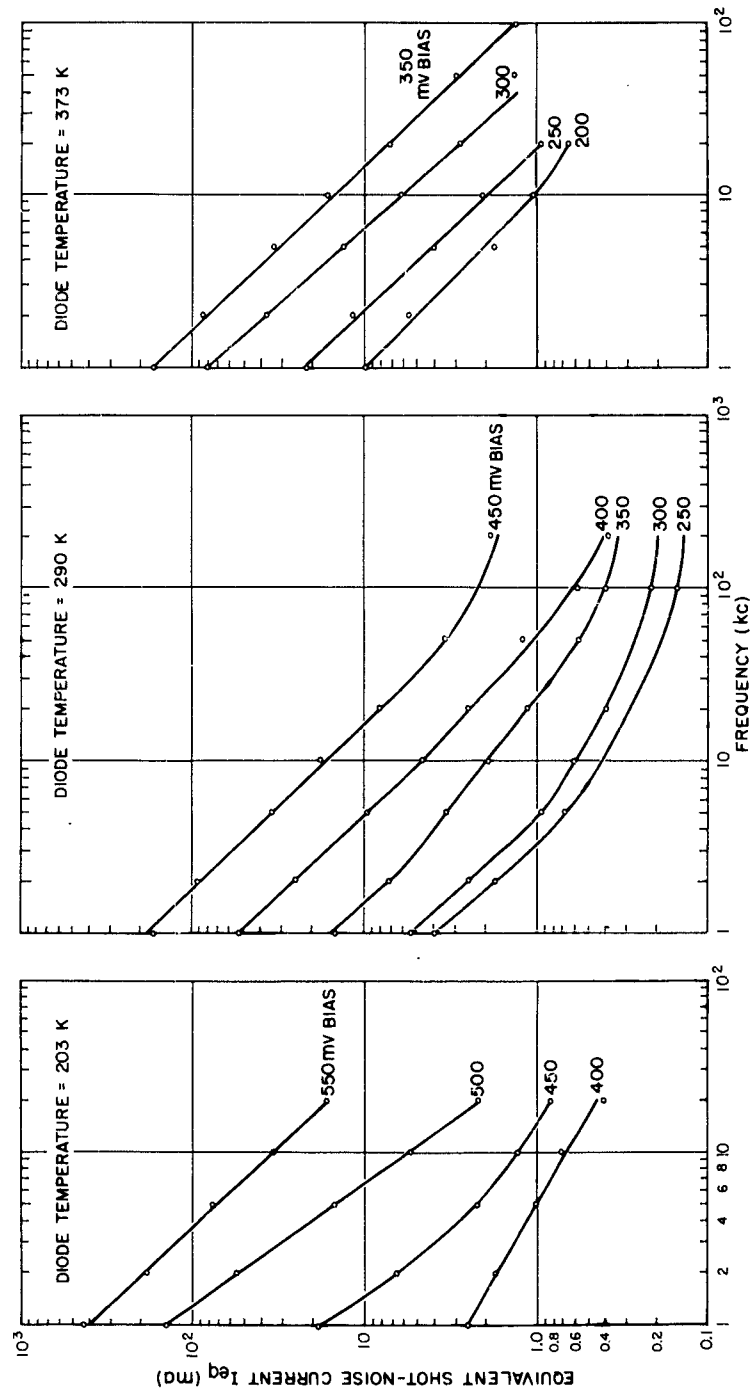


Fig. 11 Low-Frequency Noise vs. Frequency for 1-mA Ge Tunnel Diode Type 1N2939

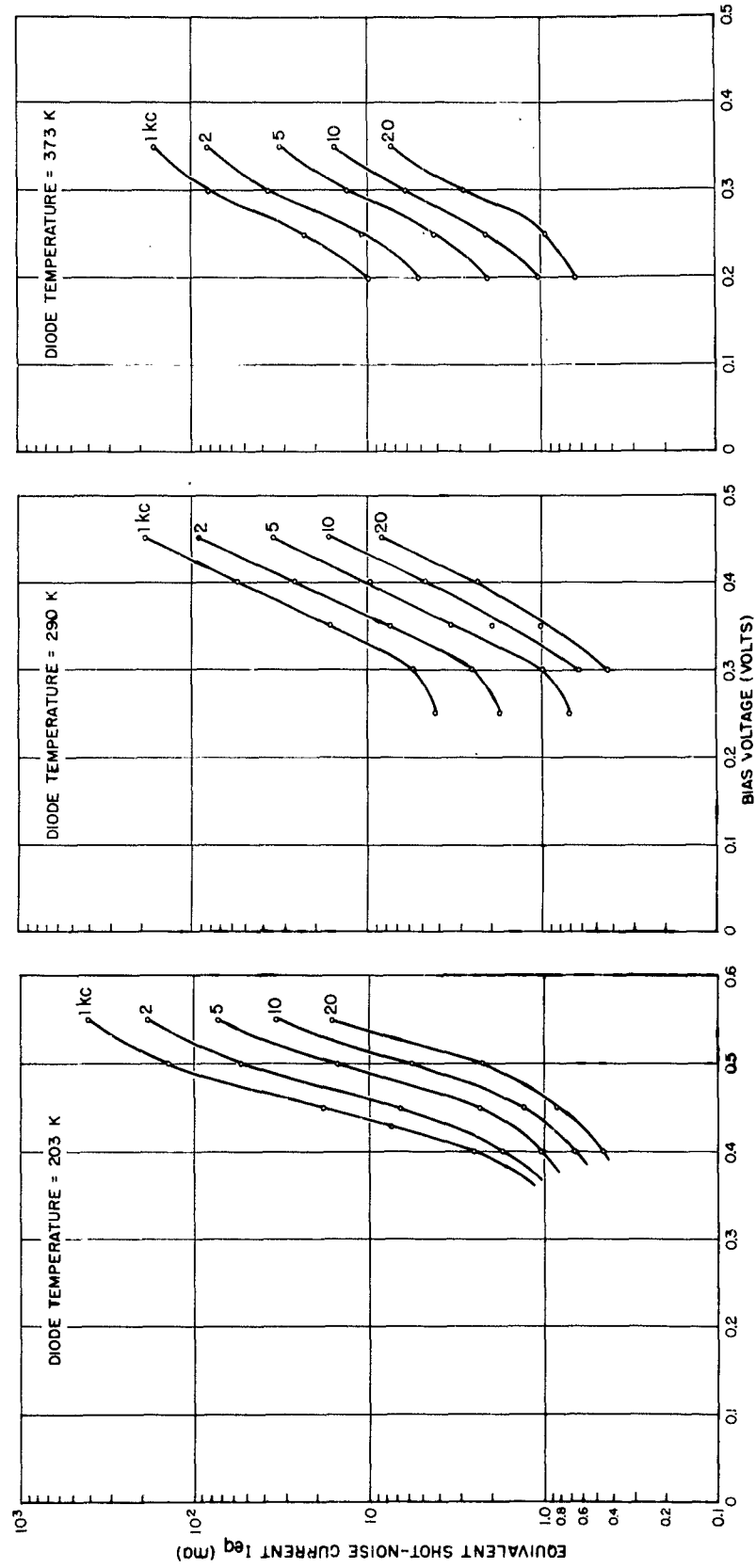


Fig. 12 Low-Frequency Noise vs. Bias Voltage for 1-ma Ge Tunnel Diode Type 1N2939

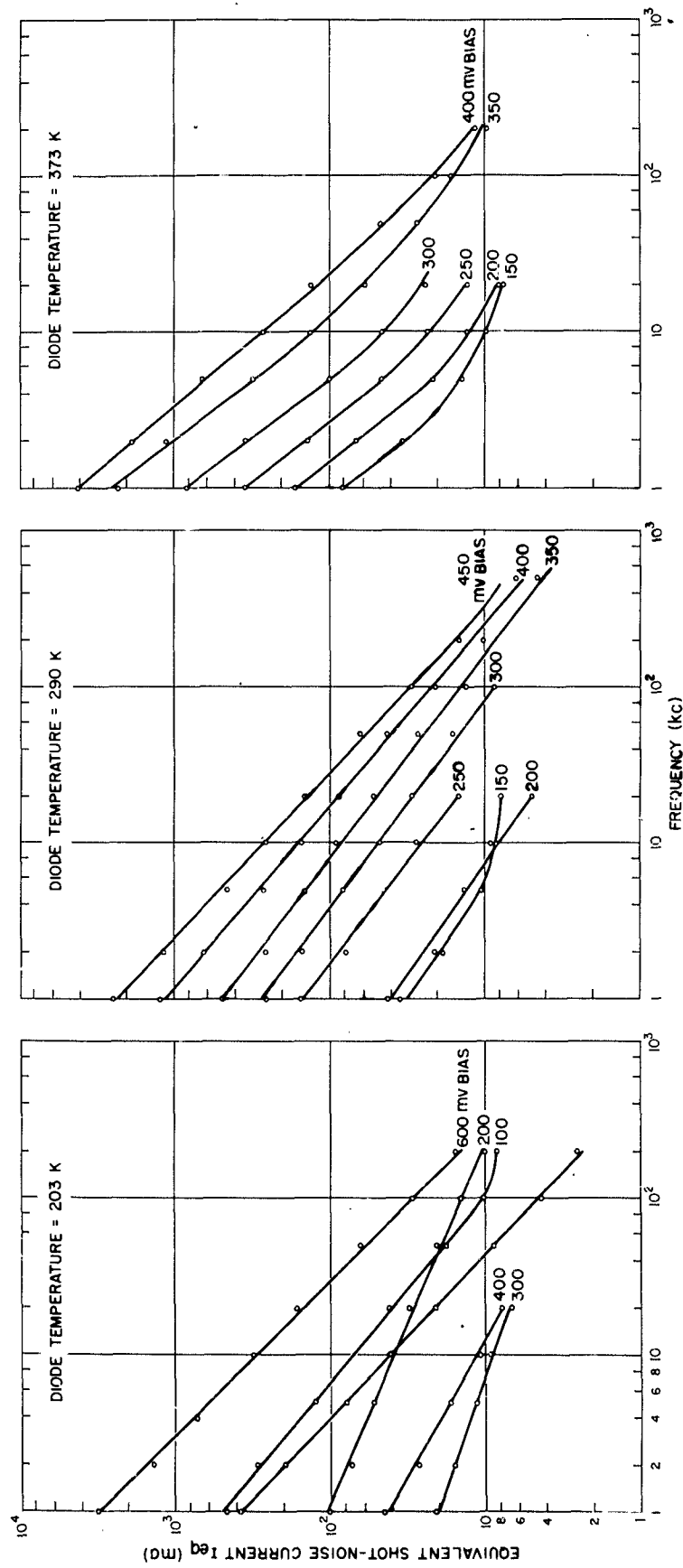


Fig. 13 Low - Frequency Noise vs. Frequency for 4.7 - ma Ge Tunnel Diode Type 1N2941



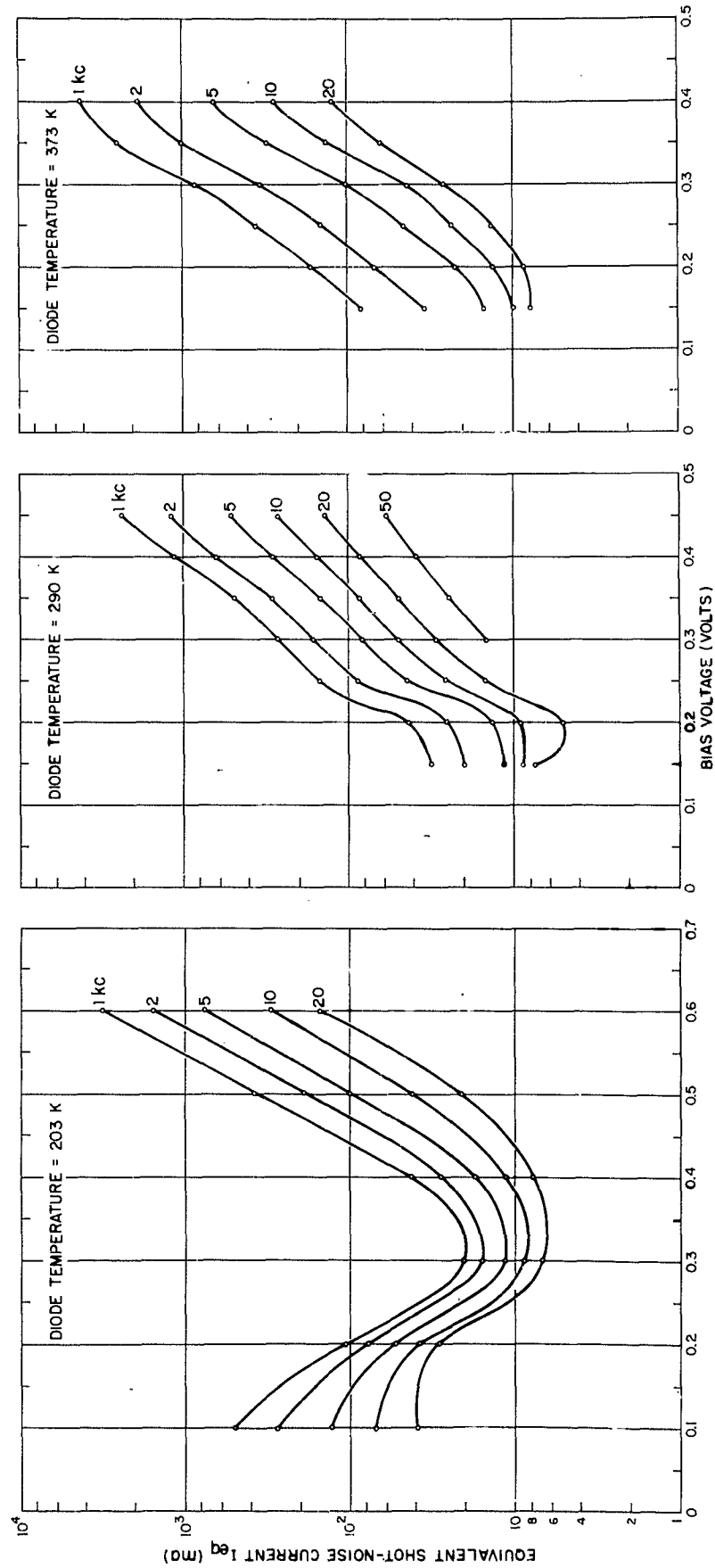


Fig. 14 Low-Frequency Noise vs. Bias Voltage for 4.7-ma Ge Tunnel Diode Type 1N2941

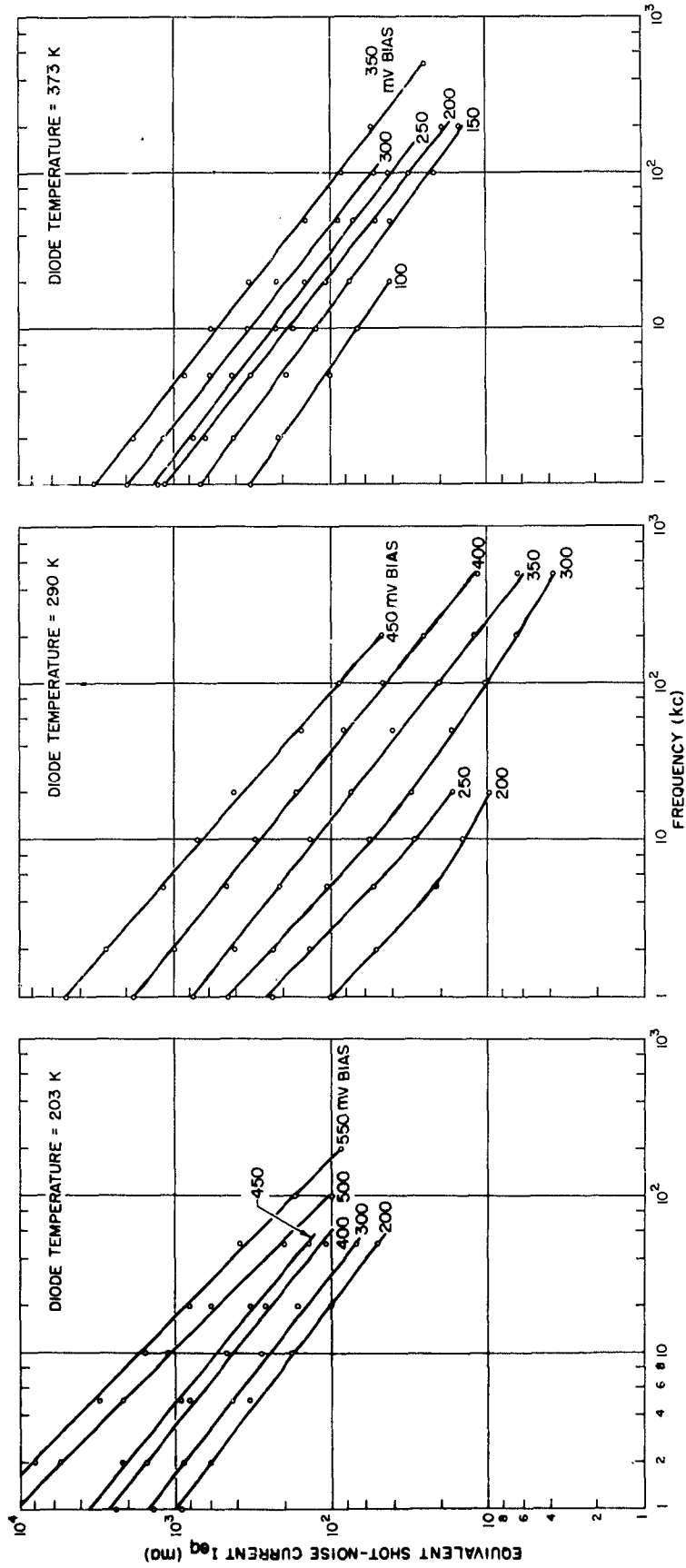


Fig. 15 Low - Frequency Noise vs. Frequency for 2.2-ma Ge Tunnel Diode Type 1N2969 (No. 1)

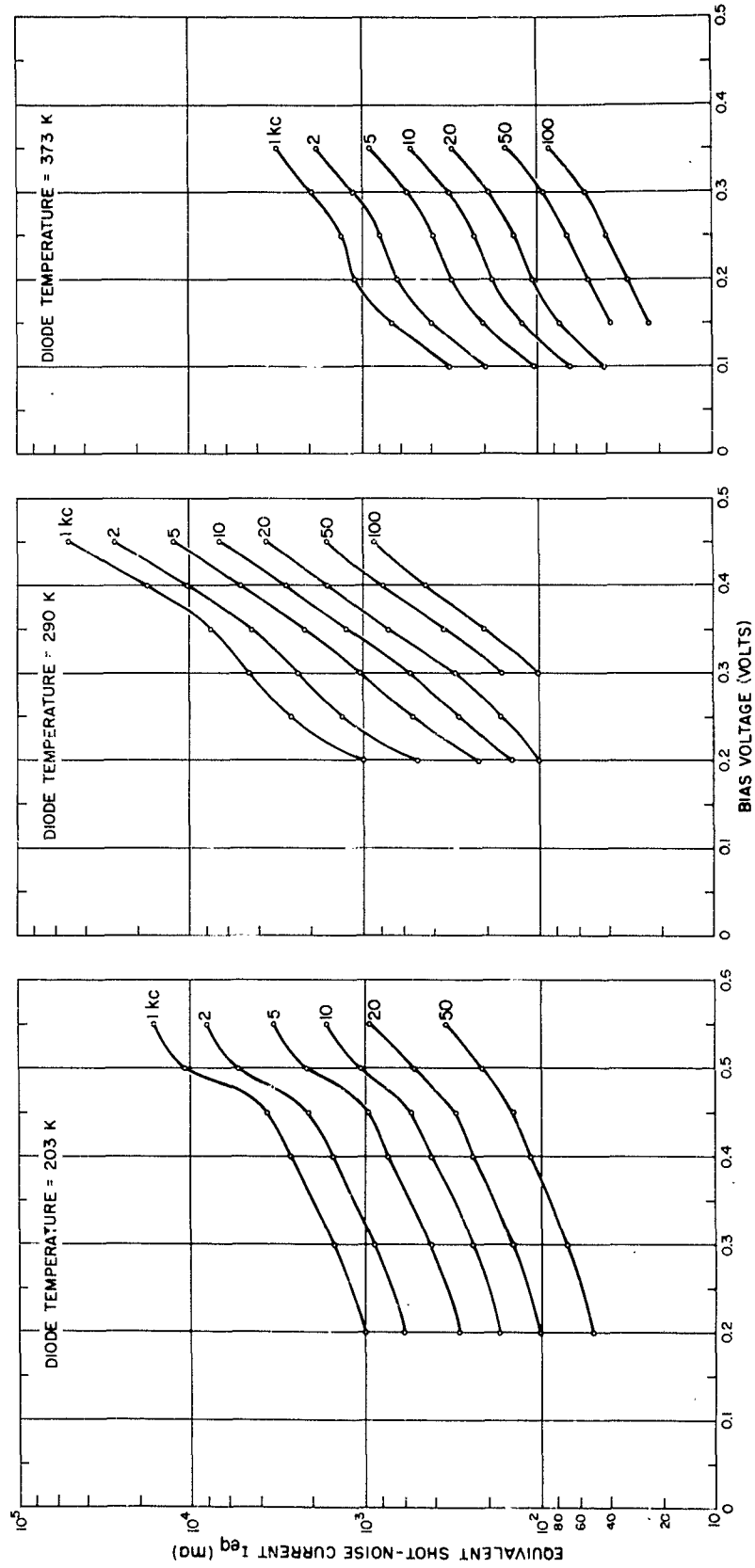


Fig. 16 Low-Frequency Noise vs. Bias Voltage for 2.2-ma Ge Tunnel Diode Type 1N2969 (No. 1)

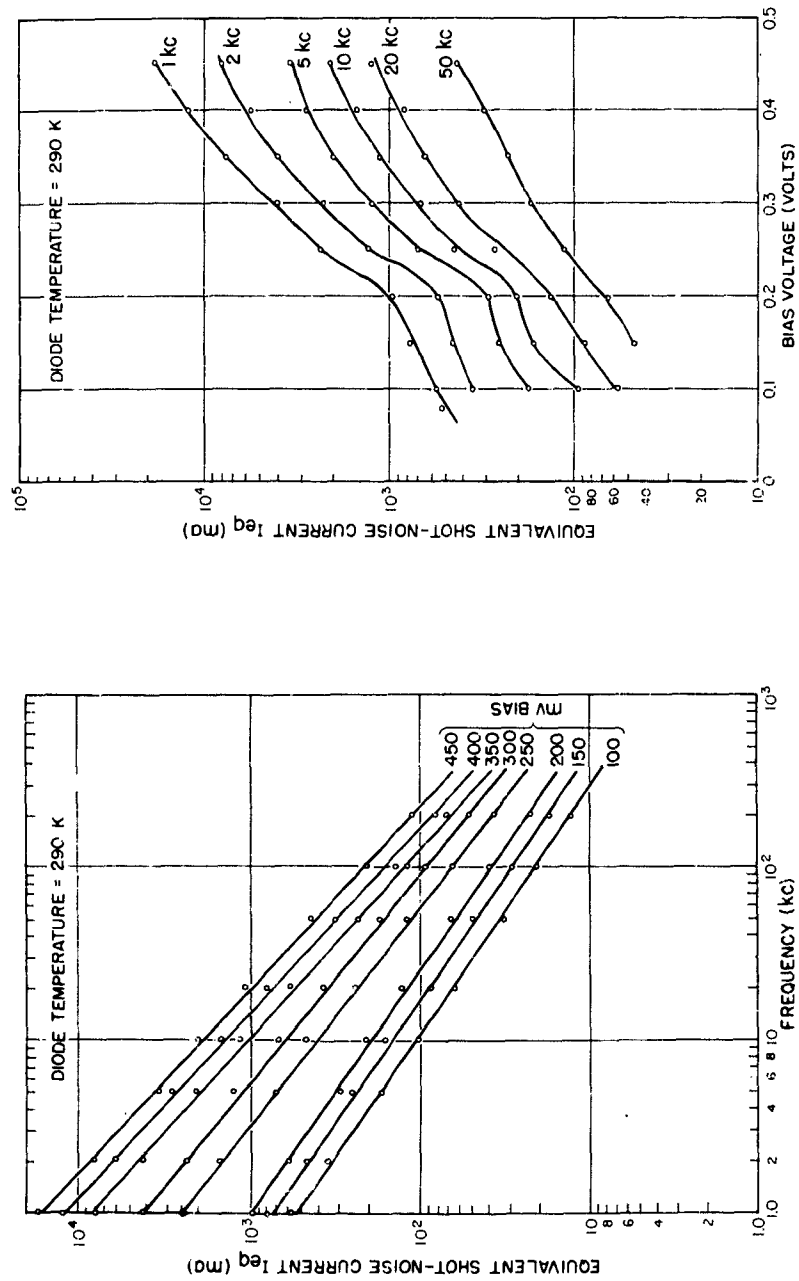


Fig. 17 Low-Frequency Noise at 290 K for 2.2-ma Ge Tunnel Diode Type 1N2969 (No. 2)

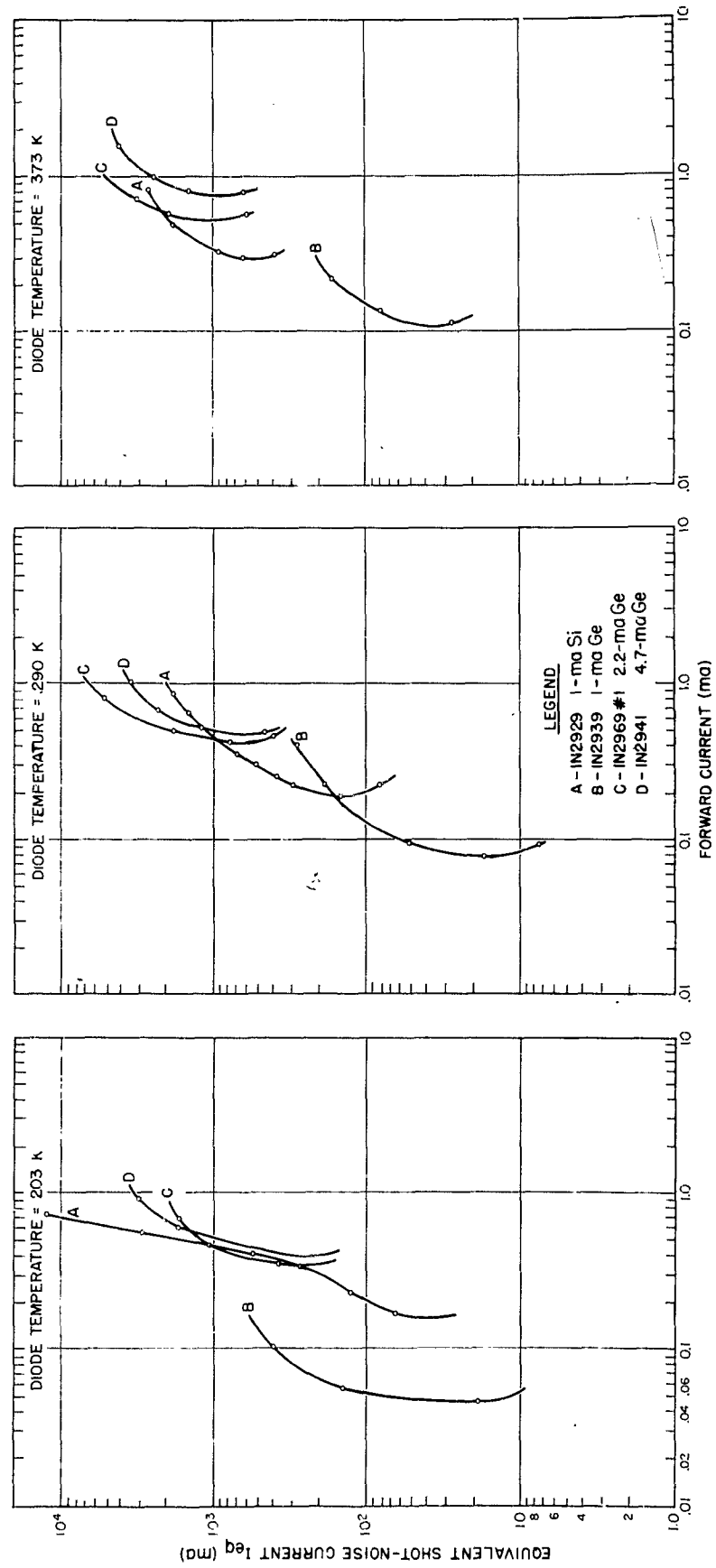


Fig. 18 1-kc Noise in Tunnel - Diode Samples vs. Forward Current

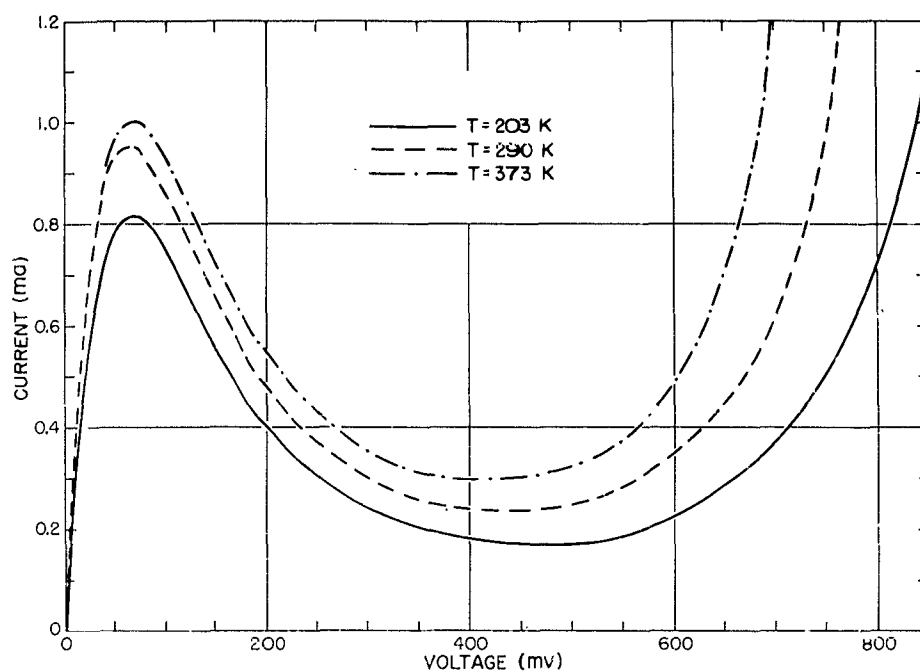


Fig. 19 D-c Characteristics of Si Tunnel Diode Type 1N2929 at 203 K, 290 K, and 373 K

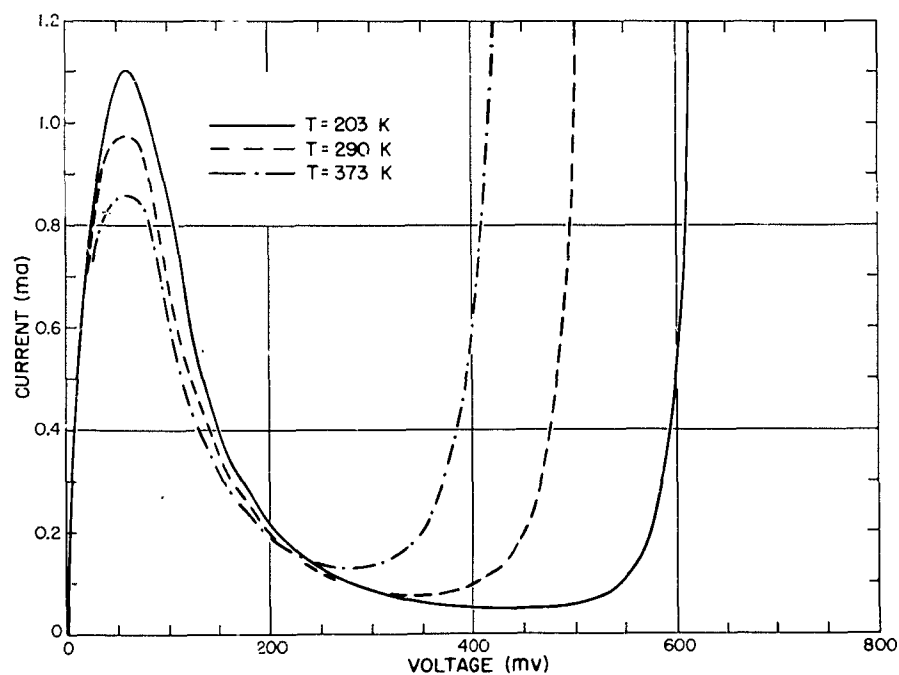


Fig. 20 D-c Characteristics of Ge Tunnel Diode Type 1N2939 at 203 K, 290 K, and 373 K

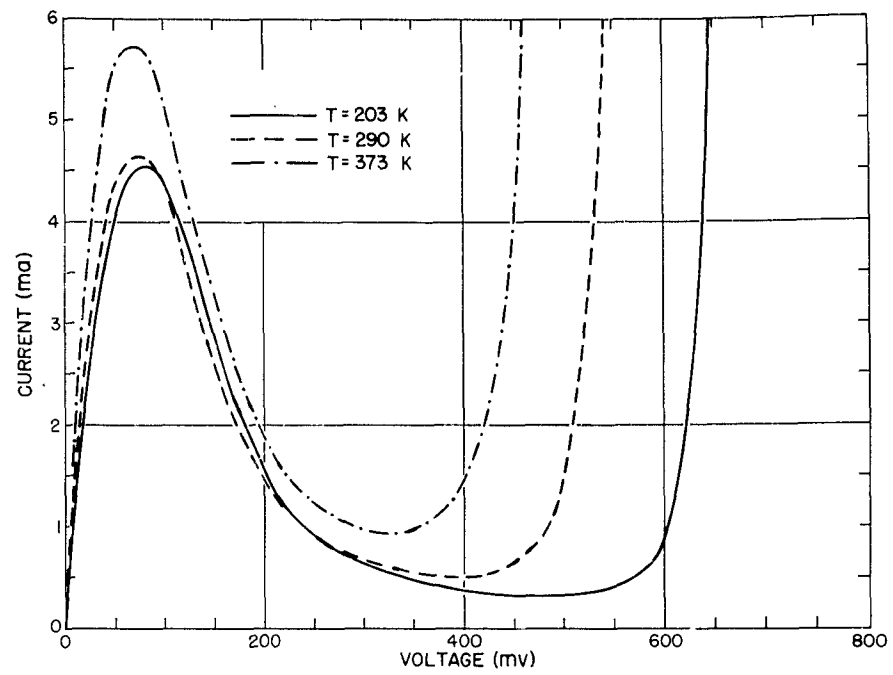


Fig. 21 D-c Characteristics of Ge Tunnel Diode Type 1N2941 at 203 K, 290 K, and 373 K

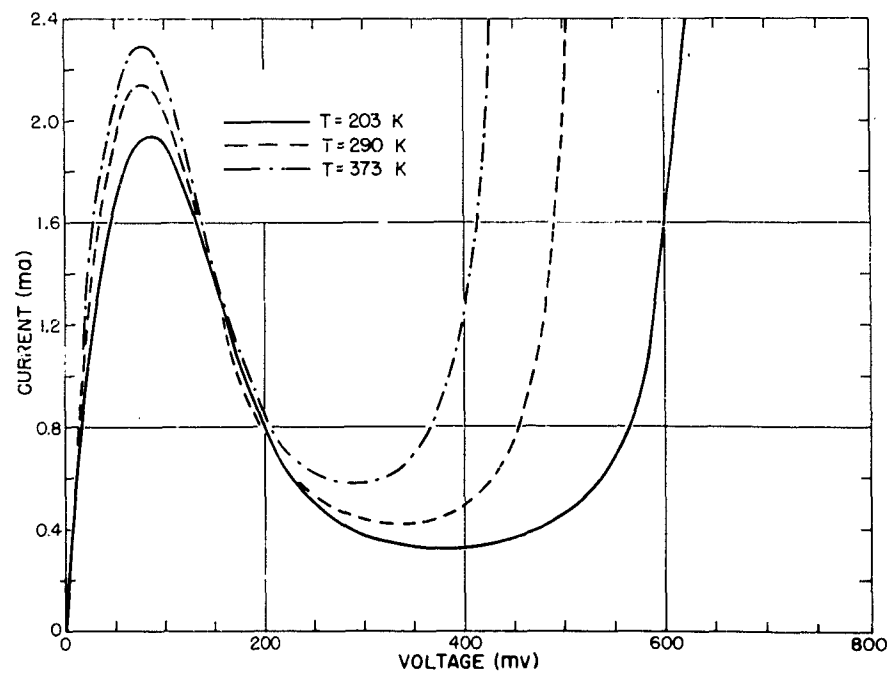


Fig. 22 D-c Characteristics of Ge Tunnel Diode Type 1N2969 (No. 1) at 203 K, 290 K, and 373 K

magnitude of the excess current is known to be relatively independent of temperature,<sup>1</sup> it seems necessary to assume that the noise associated with the different components of excess current are temperature dependent in different ways.

In general, the following statements can be made about excess noise in tunnel diodes :

1.  $1/f$  noise is greatest for most tunnel diodes at the higher bias voltages.
2. At bias voltages near the valley voltage and higher, the  $1/f$  noise may predominate at frequencies as high as 50 Mc.

Measurements by Van der Ziel<sup>5</sup> indicated that there are irregularities at low frequencies in the noise spectra of some tunnel diodes. No such irregularities were noted for the four samples studied.

### C. SHOT NOISE IN TUNNEL DIODES

Measurements were made of the equivalent noise-current generator in parallel with four tunnel-diode samples at 30 Mc and 290 K. It was assumed that all noise measured at this frequency was frequency independent, and that the thermal noise due to the spreading resistance of the diode was negligible compared to the shot noise over the bias range of interest. The latter assumption is valid at frequencies well below the resistive cut-off frequency of the tunnel diode as long as the ratio of minimum negative resistance to spreading resistance is much greater than one. For the Type 1N2941 4.7-ma diode, this ratio is 55:1, so that the error introduced by this assumption is less than two percent. For the other diodes, the error is considerably less.

The current components  $I_E$  and  $I_Z$  were calculated for each diode by Pucel's method, and, following Tiemann,<sup>2</sup> it was assumed that the equivalent shot-noise current of the diode should be given by Eq. 3. Figures 23 through 26 show the measured shot-noise equivalent current for the four samples compared to the value of  $I_{eq}$  obtained from Eq. 3, the sum of  $I_E$ ,  $I_Z$ ,  $I_{ex}$ , and  $I_d$ .



For all diodes, the measured shot-noise equivalent current agrees very closely with Eq. 3. Such small differences as exist could be caused by the following:

1. Some  $1/f$  noise may be present.
2. At higher bias voltages, the larger junction capacitance makes accurate measurement of noise difficult. The high measured values of  $I_{eq}$  at the highest bias voltages may thus be in error.
3. In the positive-resistance regions, the increased value of  $F_2$  tends to decrease the accuracy of the measurements.

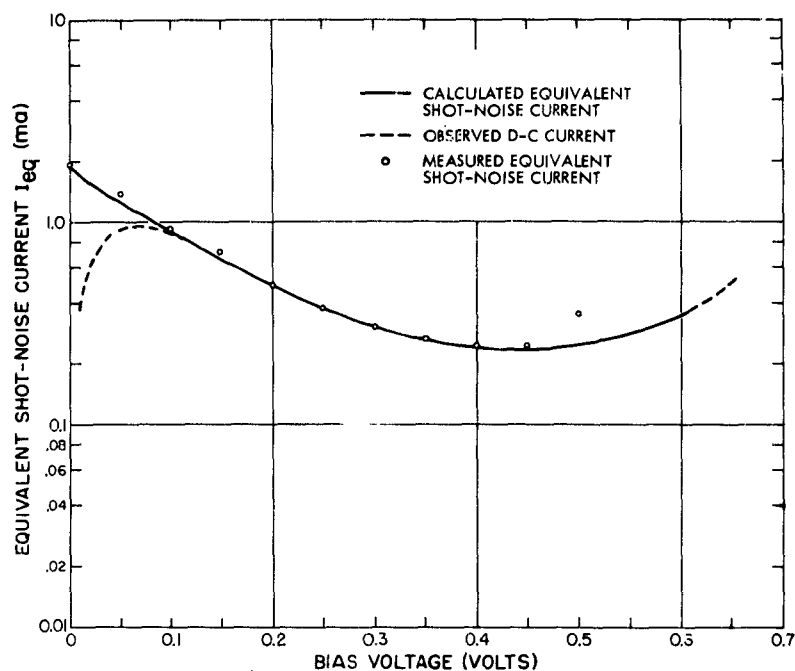


Fig. 23 Comparison of Calculated and Measured Equivalent Shot-Noise Current at 30 Mc and 290 K for Si Tunnel Diode Type 1N2929

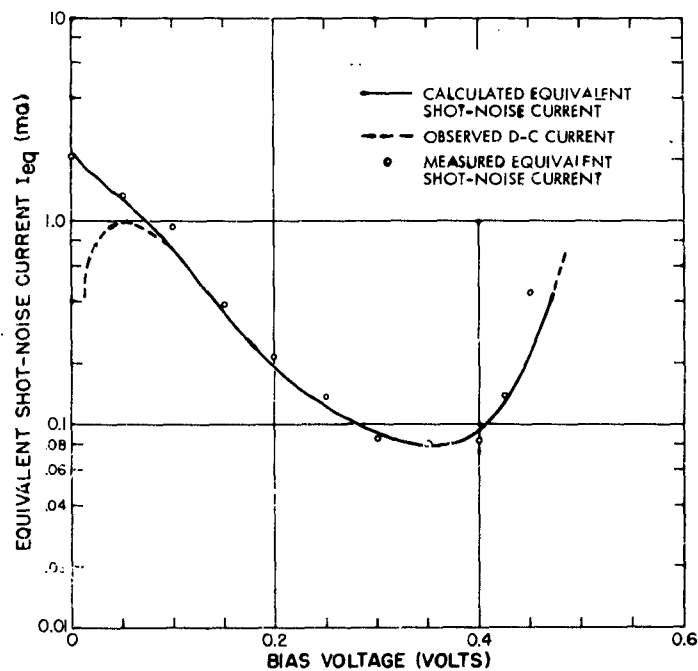


Fig. 24 Comparison of Calculated and Measured Equivalent Shot-Noise Current at 30 Mc and 290 K for Ge Tunnel Diode Type 1N2939

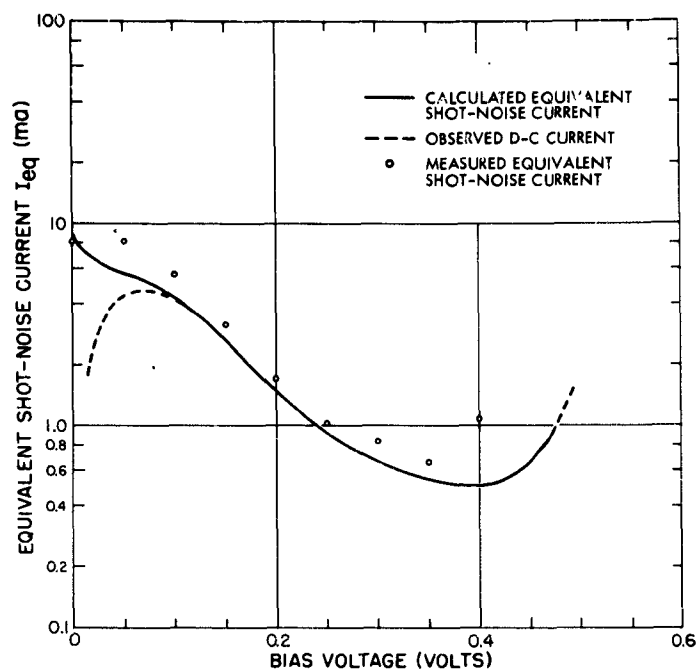


Fig. 25 Comparison of Calculated and Measured Equivalent Shot-Noise Current at 30 Mc and 290 K for Ge Tunnel Diode Type 1N2941

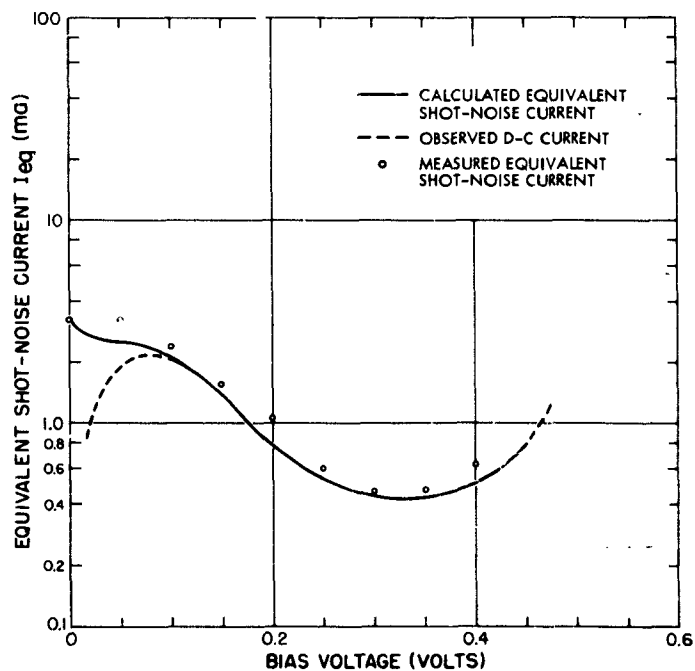


Fig. 26 Comparison of Calculated and Measured Equivalent Shot-Noise Current at 30 Mc and 290 K for Ge Tunnel Diode Type 1N2969 (No. 1)

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Frequency-independent noise was measured at 30 Mc at room temperature. It was found that the equivalent shot-noise current of a tunnel diode at voltages above the peak-point voltage is given very closely by the observed direct current. From zero voltage to the peak-point voltage, the equivalent shot-noise current of a tunnel diode is approximated by the sum of the magnitudes of the Esaki and Zener currents.

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LIST OF REPORTS PUBLISHED ON THIS CONTRACT

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